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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 30 September 1948

SUBJECT Soviet OB Notes: Eberswalde, Bad Freienwalde, Wittenberge, Neustrelitz, Magdeburg

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1. Eberswalde (V08) 25X1

a. Tank spare parts are being made by the Seiffert plant, four kilometers northwest of Eberswalde. Another plant in Britz (V09) is producing 107 mm FK 10/30 ammunition.

b. Lively traffic has been noted between Eberswalde and Bad Freienwalde.

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2. Bad Freienwalde (V28) 25X1

a. One armored regiment with T-34 tanks and one artillery regiment occupy the former motorcycle barracks. Behind the barracks is a fuel dump with three bunkers and 300-400 barrels stored in the open.

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b. Another armored regiment occupies the former German 5th Rifle Division barracks. An armored regiment which previously occupied these barracks moved to a summer camp in the Wittenberge area in late June or early July.

25X1 3. Wittenberge (Y69)

An armored regiment from Eberswalde is among the armored and infantry troops located near Wittenberge. Maneuvers have been held near Kuhblank (Y79) since early August. Riflemen engaged are believed to hail from Magdeburg. Engineer units have thrown emergency bridges over the Elbe on several occasions during these exercises.

4. The Russians also held maneuvers in the Flessau-Goldbeck area (Y66-76) in mid-August. Approximately 1,000 men participated.

25X1 5. Bittkau (Y83)

A new camp in the Bittkau forest at the eastern edge of the Letzlinger Heide

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is being enlarged by an engineer regiment. It is alleged that this camp will accommodate 15,000-20,000 men. An ammunition dump, with eight heavily guarded bunkers, is located approximately 1.5 kilometers northwest of the camp.

25X1 6. Steinwalde (U54?)

The Steinwalde training area is located approximately eight kilometers north of Neustrelitz (U54) and east of the Neustrelitz-Penzlin road. 25X1 It was occupied by infantry and armored troops, the latter 25X1 equipped with T-34 tanks (85 mm gun). 25X1 Pontoons and pneumatic rafts were observed in the yard of an engineer barracks two kilometers north of Neustrelitz. This unit trains on the 25X1 Zirker See, west of the town.

7. Magdeburg (Y60)

25X1 a. the northern section of the Encke Barracks was occupied 25X1 by 500-600 riflemen. The western section held approximately 5,000 artillery troops. 25X1 25X1

b. Approximately 4,000 artillery troops occupied the former AA barracks located between Biederitz and Magdeburg-Neustadt. This unit is equipped with very heavy guns towed by tractors and its vehicles 25X1 25X1

25X1 Comment: Paragraph 7 above represents an attempt to check recent allegations that Encke Barracks serve as the headquarters of a "Fourth 25X1 25X1 Army" . No such vehicles were encountered, 25X1 25X1 While it is believed that most Magdeburg troops were on maneuvers at this time - barracks were declared empty 25X1 25X1 the figures given may represent basic Magdeburg strength.)

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